

Hollywood Reporter

By Mike Connolly

MIKE'S THURSDAY MAILBAG

Dear Mike: Just to keep the record straight. I am SO tired of all you columnists who claim that Joan Crawford is only 53. In 1912 I was a student at Chicago Latin High School. We used to play hooky on Tuesday afternoons to catch the show at the Orpheum, then to Henri's for dinner, and then on to a State Street cabaret where a Miss Lucille LeSueur was dancing. She was just 16 years old at that time. Let's not fool the troops.—Bruce Owens, San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Bruce: Joan's birth certificate shows that she was born Lucille LeSueur on March 23, 1908. Maybe she was playing hooky too—from kindergarten.

Sir: I can't believe that all those questions you run in your weekly Q&A column are from real people. Why don't you admit you make them up?—Lillian Gunning, North Hollywood, Calif.

Dear Lillian: Since you live in the neighborhood, come up to my office at the Hollywood Reporter and I'll show you how real they are—COMPLETE—with gen-u-wine, dyed-in-the-wool U. S. Post Office-cancelled envelopes. And that includes your own.

Dear Mike: Who has won the most Oscars in Hollywood?—Betty Koester, Helena, Mont.

Dear Betty: Walt Disney. But Sam Spiegel, who produced "Bridge on the River Kwai" and "Lawrence of Arabia," is sneaking up on him and has challenged Uncle Walt to a game of chess, played with their Oscars.

Dear Mr. Connolly: Can't you do something to stop Jayne Mansfield from making those announcements that she's taking instructions in Roman Catholicism? Don't we have enough troubles without THAT?—Cecelia M. Grasst, Allentown, Pa.

Dear Cecelia: Jayne says she didn't announce it and that a reporter "wormed" it out of her. But she refuses to name the cleric from whom she's taking the instructions.

Sir: Who is Cary Grant dating these days? Omigosh, how I do love that man.—Audrey Wulff, Bronx, N. Y.

Dear Audrey: He's been going with Pat Brody, auspicious New York model. Sorry.

Dear Sir: I'm glad Patty Duke won that Oscar for "The Miracle Worker" but I think the campaign she used was kind of sneaky. Why did she have to say it was her first movie, as though it were some kind of "miracle" (pardon the pun!) that she turned in such a swell acting job? 'Fess up—you knew it wasn't, didn't you? Lee Schwartz, Normal, Ill.

Dear Lee: Not till just now. I checked with the Screen Actors' Guild and learned that Patty's first film was "The 4-D Man" for Universal in 1959. 'Fess up yourself, Lee—she deserved it, didn't she?

Dear Mr. Connolly: I am 15 and hope some day to be an actress. If I can have just a small portion of the talent possessed by Patty Duke and Anne Bancroft I will be grateful. Please tell me how to reach them.—Sue Cavanaugh, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sue: Anne and Patty are both in New York City—Anne at the Martin Beck Theater and Patty at Quintano's Professional School.

Dear Mr. Connolly: Since George Maharis is out of the "Route 66" series, is he going to wait out his contract with the producers or is he going to court? I am an ardent fan of his and am concerned about his future.—Linda Caputo, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Linda: George says he's going to do a guest shot for Ed Sullivan's June 16th show. Herb Leonard, producer of "Route 66," says George will NOT and that he (Herb) will use every legal means to pre-

vent it. "Maharis will be held firmly to the terms of his contract," says Leonard, "and I

look forward to his return to the cast of our show."

Dear Sir: Could you tell me a little about Marlon Brando? How old is he? Is that his real name? Was he ever married?—Karen Hoye, Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Karen: He will be 40 next April 2. His real name is Marlon Brando and his friends call him Bud. His wife is Motiva (real name: Marie

Castenada), who was costarred with Clark Gable in the original version of "Mutiny on the Bounty." They have a son, born 1960. He is divorced from Anna Kashfi (real name: Joan O'Callaghan). They have a son, Christian Devl Brando, born 1958.

(Mike Connolly welcomes all readers' questions, but due to the large volume of mail received, it may be some time before the answer to your question appears in his column.)

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